

In the Specification:

Please amend paragraph 20 as follows:

[20] FIGS. 5a to ~~5m-5k~~ show another example of the encoding of a sequence of repetitive data according to the first embodiment of the present invention;

Please amend paragraph 45 as follows:

[45] In order to further clarify what has been said above, another example is illustrated in FIGS. 5a-~~5m5k~~, which refer to the encoding of the following repetition of data sequence: {[A(5), B(6)](7), [C(3), D(4)](6)}(10), i.e., a data sequence that repeats in all ten times and is made up of two sub-sequences, in which the first sub-sequence is repeated seven times and is formed by the datum "A", which is repeated five times, and the datum "B", which is repeated six times, whilst the second sub-sequence is repeated six times and is formed by the datum "C", which is repeated three times, and the datum "D", which is repeated four times.

Please amend paragraph 47 as follows:

[47] As may be noted, the first word (FIG. 5a) indicates that the encoding of the entire sequence is made up of ten words in addition to the first word (for a total of eleven words) and that said words are repeated ten times (number of repetitions of the sequence), the words from the second to the sixth (FIGS. 5b-5f) regard the encoding of the first sub-sequence, whilst the words from the seventh to the eleventh (FIGS. 5g-~~5m5k~~) regard the encoding of the second sub-sequence.

Please amend paragraph 49 as follows:

[49] As regards the second sub-sequence, the seventh word (FIG. 5g) indicates that the encoding is made up of four words in addition to the seventh (for a total of five words) and that said words are repeated six times (number of repetitions of the second sub-sequence), the eighth word and ninth word (FIGS. 5h and 5i) regard the encoding of the repetition of the datum "C", whilst the tenth word and the eleventh word (FIG. ~~5h-5j~~ and ~~5m5k~~) regard the encoding of the datum "D". In particular, the eighth word (FIG. 5h) indicates that the encoding of the datum "C" is made up of one word in addition to the eighth word (for a total of two words) and that the following



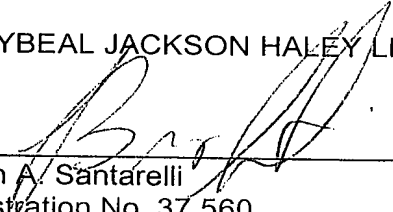
word is repeated three times (number of repetitions of the datum "C"), whilst the ninth word (**FIG. 5i**) indicates the datum "C", just as the tenth word (**FIG. 5i5j**) indicates that the encoding of the datum "D" is made up of one word in addition to the tenth word (for a total of two words) and that the following word is repeated four times (number of repetitions of the datum "D"), whilst the eleventh word (**FIG. 5m5k**) indicates the datum "D".

Should the Examiner have any further questions about the application, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney at (425) 455-5575 to resolve the matter. If any need for any fee in addition to that paid with this Preliminary Amendment is found, for any reason or at any point during the prosecution of this application, kindly consider this a petition therefore and charge any necessary fees to Deposit Account 07-1897.

DATED this 2nd day of April, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

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